functioning of State and District Administration. Commission has made recommendations on the following major aspects of State and District Administration:—

1. State Administration

   (ii) Restructuring State Governments

   (ii) Refurbishing State Civil Services

   (iii) State Public Service Commission

2. District Administration

   (i) The Institution of District Collector/Deputy Commissioner

   (ii) Functional and Structural Reforms

3. Administration of the Union Territories

4. Governance Issues in the North-Eastern States

5. Managing State Finances.

These recommendations made by the Administrative Reforms Commission are being examined by the Government.

Visit of US National Security Advisor

*197. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US National Security Advisor visited India with the aim of strengthening key bilateral partnership;

(b) if so, whether Foreign Secretary of USA also visited India and had discussions with Government's representatives on Indo-US nuclear deal;

(c) if so, the main points that were discussed and whether US has apprised to continue talks with Pakistan; and

(d) if so, to what extent relations between India and USA have improved and whether nuclear deal that was agreed upon is being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes, Sir. US National Security Advisor visited India during 25-26 June, 2009 to further the India-US strategic relationship.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. US Under Secretary for Political Affairs Mr. William Burns visited India during 10-13 June, 2009 and reviewed bilateral relations including implementation of the 123 Agreement and discussed regional and global issues of shared interest with Government representatives. On continuing talks with Pakistan, the US Administration's position has been reiterated by the US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in a speech delivered on 17th June, 2009 when she stated that — "We believe that India and Pakistan actually face a number of common

challenges, and we welcome a dialogue between them. As we have said before, the pace, scope and character of that dialogue is something that Indian and Pakistani leaders will decide on their own terms and in their own time."

(d) The relations between India and the US, in the last few years, have been transformed into a strategic partnership. The new Governments in USA and India have reiterated their commitment to further strengthen and deepen the Indo-US bilateral relationship.

The two Governments are presently engaged in implementing various provisions of the Agreement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation.

Removal of tainted officers' names from the website of Vigilance Commission

†*198. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that names of the tainted officers have been removed from the website of Vigilance Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons;

(c) whether it is a fact that chargesheets/memos against these officers could not be filed for want of permission from the concerned department;

(d) the details thereof alongwith reasons; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to eradicate corruption at the Administrative level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) In December, 1999, the Commission decided to publish the list of officers of organized services against whom it had advised initiation of criminal/departmental proceedings for major penalty *w.e.f.* 01.01.1990. The list was displayed on the website and was being updated till August, 2002 in accordance with the records available with the Commission. Thereafter, the Commission decided to display names of only those officers against whom major penalty had been imposed. The list of such officers continues to be displayed on the Commission's website on monthly basis.

(c) and (d) In view of the facts stated above, the question does not arise.

(e) Government is fully committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption" and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include:—

(i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.